

MARCH 5, 1878.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Forty-one persons present.

The following papers were presented for publication:—

“Recovery of all the Faculties in a Pigeon from which the Cerebral Hemispheres had been removed.” By J. H. McQuillen, M.D.

“The Electric Constitution of the Solar System.” By Jacob Ennis.

*A Hippopotamus Tusk.*—Prof. LEIDY stated that in the Mozambique Collection of the International Exhibition, he had noticed a hippopotamus tooth remarkable for its size. It was an inferior canine, with a spiral turn, apparently from impeded growth, perhaps due to the loss of the opposing tooth. It measured 42 inches long in the spiral. The insertion was 16 inches, and the diameter 4 inches.

*On Amœba.*—Prof. LEIDY remarked that the first notice of an Amœba was of a large species, described by Rösel; under the name of *Proteus*, in the *Insecten-Belustigung*, Nürnberg, 1755. It was called by Linnæus *Volvox chaos* and *Chaos protheus*, and by Pallas *Volvox proteus*, and subsequently by Müller *Proteus diffluens*. As the latter generic name was preoccupied, Bory called the animal *Amiba*. Ehrenberg, in the *Infusionsthierchen*, describes a small species as *Amœba diffluens*, and refers all those previously described to the same. His supposed new and large species, which he describes as *Amœba princeps*, is really the same as Rösel's *Proteus*. The true name of this should be either *Amœba chaos* or *Amœba proteus*, the former according to strict rules of zoological nomenclature, though the latter would appear more appropriate as serving to perpetuate the name given by the discoverer of the first known rhizopod.

*Black Barite from Derbyshire.*—Prof. GEORGE A. KOENIG communicated the results of an examination made on a specimen labelled “Manganese from Derbyshire,” in the collection of the Academy. The mineral is jet-black in color, exhibiting metallic lustre. Lamellar structure without distinct forms. Strong cleavage. Cleavage pieces gave the angles of barite. Specific gravity = 4.345.

Boiled with hydrochloric acid the black color disappears, leaving a white substance. The analysis gave